

said places and if no action has so far been taken in this regard the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ayurvedic University in Idduki, Kerala

1539. SHRI PALA K. M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of availability of medicinal plants and herbs etc. in abundance in the forests district of Idukki in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up an Ayurvedic University in Idukki;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A team for survey of Medicinal Plants from Regional Research Institute, Trivandrum under the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha has surveyed the forest areas of Idduki district and found many Medicinal Plants available in this area. The Ministry of Environment & Forest have also informed that the South Circle of Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore has also been exploring the hills of Idduki district and found a large number of plants of Medicinal Importance in this area. Some of the important medicinal

plants found in this area are: Pippali (Piper longum); Tamala (Cinnamomum tamala); Shalaparni (Desmodium gangeticum); Prashniparni (Uria picta); Bilwa (Aggla) marmelos; Agnimantha (Clepodendrum phlo-midis); Ashoka (Saraca ashoka); Ketaki (Pandamus roxbughianum); Kantakari (Solanum xanthocarpum); Musta (Cyper rotundus); Ashwagandha (Withania somnifera); Shatavari (Asparagus recemosus); Arjuna (Terminalia arjuna); Shyonaka (Oroxylum) (indicum); Gambhari (Melina arborea); Langali (Gloriosa superba); Vidari (Pueraria tuberosa); (Mricha (Piper nigrum); Kutaja (Hollarhena antidysenterica); Sveda kutaja (Wrigh-tia tinctoria); Nirgundi (Vitex nen-gundo); etc.

(c) to (e) Presently there is no proposal to start any Ayurvedic University in Idduki, Kerala or elsewhere by this Ministry as there is no provision in the plan Budget for the purpose.

[Translation]

Bill to Control Blood Banks

1540. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring forward a Bill to control blood banks in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration in the Union Government to bring forward a Bill to control blood banks in the country.

The Drugs and Cosmetics Act/ Rules provide a legal framework for regulating the blood banks.